



January 2012

## Welcome, New Staff

Jennifer Stadum has joined the Indian Education for All Division as an Implementation Specialist. A former IEFA Coach in Bozeman, she brings a strong science and Indian Education background to our office. We welcome her organizational skills, as well, as she coordinates the 2012 Best Practices Conference! She looks forward to meeting and working with educators all across the state.

## Best Practices Conference Wants YOU!

It's not too late to submit a proposal to present! Please consider sharing your experience, perhaps a lesson you and your students value, with your peers at the Sixth Annual Best Practices Conference in Billings, Feb. 27-28.

**Questions? Contact Jennifer Stadum 406-444-0725, [jstadum@mt.gov](mailto:jstadum@mt.gov)**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS    Deadline extended to January 15.**

## 2012 ADVOCACY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN IEFA

The Indian Education Division at the Office of Public Instruction is soliciting nominations for an important opportunity – the Advocacy Award for Excellence in Indian Education for All, in honor of one of Montana's finest

educators, Teresa Veltkamp. Teresa was a classroom teacher and Indian Education Specialist at OPI who was passionate and inspirational in her efforts to ensure and support the highest levels of implementation of Indian Education for All in Montana.

Please give consideration to this opportunity to acknowledge and honor an outstanding educator's efforts in the promotion of and steadfast support for Indian Education for All. The nominee should be an exceptionally skillful, dedicated teacher who has earned the respect of students and colleagues.

**Preceding the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual IEFA Best Practices Conference, an awards ceremony and reception OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AS WELL AS CONFERENCE ATTENDEES, will be hosted by the Office of Public Instruction on February 26, 5:00 p.m., Sunday afternoon, during a reception at the Yellowstone Art Museum, 401 N. 27<sup>th</sup> St. (two blocks north of the Crowne Plaza Hotel).**

**To facilitate catering needs for the reception, please RSVP Joan Franke, [jfranke@mt.gov](mailto:jfranke@mt.gov), 444-3694.**

### **[NOMINATION DETAILS](#)**

## **JOIN US!**

Also, if you have not already considered attending, please do so. Held this year at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Billings, it is a powerful opportunity for educators to immerse in **Understanding our Differences, Valuing our Connections, Building and Maintaining Culturally Responsive Relationships**. You will see both familiar and new faces – presenting dynamic ways to weave IEFA into your curricula, as well as methods for shaping district plans for Indian Education for All, while sharing inspiration and background knowledge, elevating and sustaining us all as educators.

**We look forward to seeing you in Billings in February! The conference will kick off Sunday afternoon at 5:00 p. m. at the Yellowstone Art Museum with a reception to present the Advocacy Award for Excellence in Indian Education for All.**

**[REGISTRATION AVAILABLE HERE](#)**

## Winter and Storytelling time ...

As snow comes to Montana, it's time to enjoy winter stories!

One such tale is [Beaver Steals Fire](#), by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, which includes this introductory note describing the tribe's seasonal protocol:

"We must ask one special favor of those who use this book in the classroom or who may otherwise read or discuss it aloud: our traditional Coyote stories--the legends of Coyote--and the other animal people that appear throughout this book--should be told or discussed only during winter when snow is on the ground. The elders usually bring out the stories in November and put them away again when the snow is gone--usually by late February or March. Some say the stories are put away when the snakes come out. It is said that snakes will come to those who do not follow this custom or that cold weather will come during the warm months. Coyote stories, like other parts of our traditional way of life, are part of a seasonal cycle. By following this tradition, readers, teachers, and students can enjoy this aspect of our culture--keeping and saving something for the time of year during which it belongs.

"Salish and Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee"

Look for more Coyote stories in your school's library, and commemorate the transition to winter!

**Titles marked with \* denote books sent to school libraries by OPI**

\*[Beaver Steals Fire: A Salish Coyote Story](#) by Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes  
Told by Salish elder Johnny Arlee and illustrated by tribal artist Sam Sandoval. **Also on DVD**, told to a group of children in a traditional tepee setting.  
ISBN 0803243235

\*[Coyote Stories of the Montana Salish Indians](#), from the Salish Culture Committee -- Three traditional Salish Coyote stories recorded by Salish

elders and illustrated by Indian artists from the Flathead Reservation. Fourth-grade reading level. ISBN 0-917298-61-6

Ktunaxa Legends, from the Kootenai Culture Committee -- Traditional Coyote and animal stories of the Flathead Reservation Ktunaxa (Kootenai) Indians. Translated by culture committee members and illustrated by Kootenai artists. ISBN-10: 0295976608 <http://www.charkoosta.com/features.html>

## **DOWNLOADABLE!**

Indian Reading Series: Stories and Legends of the Northwest

<http://apps.educationnorthwest.org/indianreading/index.html>

[Coyote and the Stars](#) [435 KB, 20 pp.] **Book 1** Members of the Warm Springs Reservation Committee

Carol Allison (Illustrator), Nita Curtis (Consultant), William Frank (Illustrator), Rena Greene, Verbena Greene (Coordinator), Viola Kalama, Isabelle Keo, Stella McKinley, Matilda Mitchell, Debbie Smith (Illustrator), Ada Sooksoit, Christine Tom, Felix Wallulatum, Wilson Wewa Illustrated by Carol Allison

[Tales of Coyote and Other Legends](#) [715 KB, 36 pp.] **Book 10** Members of the Warm Springs Reservation Committee

Carol Allison (Illustrator), Nita Curtis (Consultant), William Frank (Illustrator), Rena Greene, Verbena Greene (Coordinator), Viola Kalama, Isabelle Keo, Stella McKinley, Matilda Mitchell, Debbie Smith (Illustrator), Ada Sooksoit, Christine Tom, Felix Wallulatum, Wilson Wewa Illustrated by Carol Allison

\*[Bob-Tailed Coyote](#) [159 KB, 19 pp.] **Book 8** Northern Cheyenne Research and Human Development Association Illustrated by Dale Brady (reprinted as Insects Off to War & The Bob-Tailed Coyote, OPI 2009)

\*[Coyote and the Man Who Sits On Top](#) [818 KB, 22 pp.] **Book 12** Developed by the Salish (Flathead) Cultural Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Johnny Arlee (Coordinator), Mary Finley, Tony Incashola, Mary Linsebigler, Tony Sandoval (Illustrator), Clarence Woodcock Told by Johnny Arlee Illustrated by Tony Sandoval Compiled by Shirley Torgerson (reprinted by OPI 2009)

[Coyote and Old Lady](#) [2.3 MB, 36 pp.] **Book 9** Members of the Fort Hall Reservation Committee

Frederick Auck (Illustrator), Maxine Edmo (Coordinator), Inez Evening, Charlene Farmer, Cora George (Consultant), Lillie Little (Consultant), Alene Menta, Evelyn Teton (Illustrator), Mary Washakie Illustrated by Frederick Auck

[Coyote and Trout](#) [571 KB, 22 pp.] **Book 10** Developed by the Kootenai Cultural Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Mary Andrews (Consultant), Joe Antiste (Consultant), Susan Blixt, Sarah Bufton, Glenda Burke (Illustrator), Madeline Coutre, Debbie Joseph (Illustrator), Alex Lefthand (Consultant), Basil Lefthand (Consultant), Naida Lefthand (Coordinator), Adeline Mathias (Consultant)

\*[Coyote and the Mean Mountain Sheep](#) [1.2 MB, 22 pp.] **Book 20** Developed by the Salish (Flathead) Cultural Committee of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Johnny Arlee (Coordinator), Mary Finley, Tony Incashola, Mary Linsebigler, Tony Sandoval (Illustrator), Clarence Woodcock As told by Johnny Arlee Illustrated by Tony Sandoval Compiled by Shirley Torgerson (reprinted by OPI 2009)

[Coyote \(3 stories\)](#) [787 KB, 40 pp.] **Book 5** An Assiniboine Story Jerome Fourstar, Madonna Fourstar, Joseph Clancy, Geraldine Clancy As told by Jerome Fourstar Illustrated by Joseph Clancy

### **A contemporary, humorous tale:**

[A Coyote Solstice Tale](#) by Thomas King, illustrated by Gary Clement Wily trickster Coyote is having his friends over for a little solstice get-together in the woods when a little girl comes by unexpectedly. She leads the friends through the snowy woods to the mall — a place they have never seen before. AMERICAN INDIAN YOUTH LITERATURE AWARD (2010) ISBN 0888999291

## Resource Spotlight

The **Text-based Inquiry Unit, Grades 5 – 8 for Louise Erdrich's *The Birchbark House*** will soon be sent to all elementary and middle school libraries.

This long-awaited language arts unit based on Louise Erdrich's *The Birchbark House* will be back from the printer and available at the 2012 Best Practices Conference. Featuring a set of historical photos depicting some Ojibwa lifeways, the unit immerses students in the life of a family as seen through the eyes of a seven year old girl and follows that family throughout a year of triumph and tragedy. Set on an island in Lake Superior in the year 1847, this work of historical fiction exposes students to a culture in the midst of change. Teachers of this unit will master a variety of instructional techniques, with emphasis on authentic literacy lessons that directly model comprehension skills, as well as practice rich inferential reading and interpretation of a brilliantly written book.